PATENT

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Jean-Paul STEIB et al.

Conf.:

Appl. No.:

Group:

Examiner:

Filed:

October 23, 2003

Title:

PEDICULAR HOOKS FOR RACHIDIAN ANCHORING

DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

October 23, 2003

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

An $\mbox{\bf Appendix}$ is attached following the signature page of this paper.